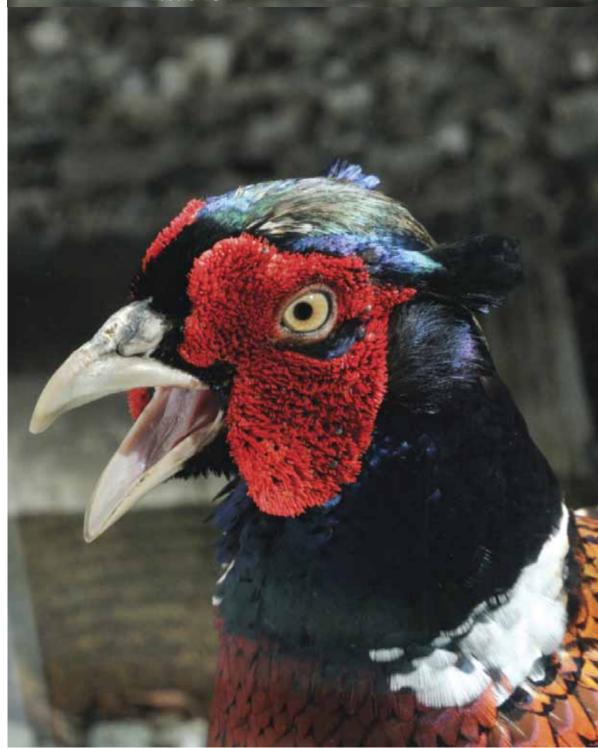
## KILLIN NEWS

KILLIN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

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#### Killim News



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#### **Editorial Policy Statement**

The Killin News is a free community newspaper produced and distributed every two months by volunteers to households and businesses in Killin and district. The aim of those involved is to produce an informative, accurate and entertaining journal for those who live, work and visit in this area. Letters and articles published in the newspaper do not necessarily reflect the views of the Production Committee and they reserve the right to shorten, edit or not publish any item. Contributions will be attributed to the author. Vested interests will be declared where applicable. Articles should be between 200 and 300 words, photos in high quality and the content should be original work relevant to Killin and environs. All personal emails are acknowledged by a reply. If you do not receive a reply please contact us by phone or drop the article in the office letterbox.

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#### **Editorial**

After a long and, at times, tiresome winter it is good to see that three 'new things' are coming on the scene.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Killin & District Scout Group. It is some time since Killin had a Scout Group but many Scout Groups visit Killin for camping and other activities. Now local children can enjoy the hills, forests and burns around Killin through the experience of scouting, not just in the Summertime but throughout the year. Their experience will give them the confidence and knowledge required to walk safely on the hills and amass lots of interesting details about local flora, fauna, ecology and the practical elements of existing in the wild. It will help them improve their social, team and leadership skills and the benefits will last throughout their lives. Congratulations David Robertson for achieving that first step. (Page 3)

A new local cinema is on the scene. The Birks Cinema, Aberfeldy is now our local cinema having been restored by volunteers with the support of the Friends of the Birks Cinema over a period of seven years or so. It is hard to understand how much work was required to achieve that goal. This was an immense achievement. The challenge now is to keep interest fed with a diet of films that will encourage people to forego the television and return time and time again to enjoy the experience of real cinema. (Page 9)

The long awaited new MacGregors has opened in Killin. A visit reveals a comfortable tearoom with customers enjoying the ambiance. A display of craft work for sale completes the picture. This is just the start. You will see, from the article, that more is to come as the development of the food and vegetable shop takes place. For that you will have to wait and try it out when it is all up and running, but a good start has been made with more to follow. (Page 6)

WA

#### Front page

A visitor to David Robertson's garden photographed by David



#### 2nd Killin & District Scout Group

The 2nd Killin and District Scout Group held their first meeting as a Group on Wednesday 8th May at Tombreck. To mark their first night, a combined meeting of all three sections, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts was held, with parents in attendance and taking part. More than a hundred children and parents attended and all had a memorable if slightly muddy evening. The programme for the night was a treasure hunt around the fields of Tombreck followed by a superb BBO and some socialising, with lots of juice, tea and coffee being consumed. Those parents who attended as if dressed for strawberries at Wimbledon weren't long in discovering their mistake!

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Also at the meeting was the District Commissioner for scouting in Stirling and Trossachs District, Mr David Wilson, who attended with several of his team from Stirling. They were delighted to see the turnout of children and the enthusiasm of the Young Leader Team. I would like to thank the folks at Tombreck for an excellent BBO and also the Ribena. The Beaver and Cub sections have twenty members each and I'm afraid that is our maximum at the moment. But a word for parents, please don't be put off as we have started waiting lists for each of these sections. Who knows what the future will bring and we will wait and see how the numbers hold after the summer holidays. We are still searching for more Young Leaders to help in the Beavers and Cubs and of course parents who can become occasional helpers. Scout numbers are also healthy and we have fifteen boys and girls at the

moment, but I suspect this may have hit twenty by the time you read this.

We have our first Patrol tent for the Scout section, presented to us by the Group in Falkirk that I still help with. They have given us a Niger Patrol Tent and flysheet plus a Dining Shelter. So now the Scouts have a tent and can learn how to pitch it.

The next few months will be spent hopefully obtaining grants and begging from local businesses and organisations. David Robertson

Group Scout Leader

Please contact leaders if you would like to join as there is a waiting list Beavers: Thursdays 6.15 - 7.15pm Killin Primary School Marieke McBean

info@marieke.co.uk Cubs: Wednesdays 6.15 - 7.45pm Killin Primary School

**David Robertson GSL** Tel 01567 829171

photos@dwrobertson-photography.com Scouts: Wednesdays 7-9pm at the Big Shed, Tombreck **Harriet Stevens** harrietstevens@gmail.com





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# Killin and Ardeonaig Trust

The last two months have been a busy time for some KAT projects and only the main activities are covered here.

#### The Old Mil

The Mill is open and is busy with visitors and customers. The key for the Macnab burial ground and Innes Buidhe has been much in demand and visitors remark on the beauty of the island. We are lucky to have such an attractive venue right next to the Falls of Dochart. The shop is living up to the business plan and supported a steady income even before the visitor season opened. Volunteers staffing the Mill enjoy the work and entering into discussion with visitors and helping them plan their holiday in the area. There is a lot to do in and around the Mill. If you have time on your hands and would like to experience the benefits of volunteering, offering only what you wish to do, please contact one of the volunteers in the Mill and join us in saving the Mill for the community. You will be very welcome and make new friends in the process. Behind the scenes, funding is being sought to take the Mill to the next stage, to identify and quantify exactly what needs to be done to bring it up to a suitable condition for community use. Most of this is detailed in the Conservation Plan, produced by Sonya Linskaill, who continues to offer us support in the venture. Thank you, Sonya. Finance is also being sought to

employ a part time support worker to work in the Mill with the volunteers in view of the intensity and complexity of the work involved. Meanwhile the overall management, a heavy task, is performed by Don and Alicja Fraser to whom we all owe a debt of gratitude and without whom the project is unlikely to have taken place. Thanks also to all the volunteers who have put in so much effort and to all who donate to the Thrift Shop for continuing to make this project a success.

#### Project Support Worker -Theresa Elliot

With finance from LEADER, The Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park Authority and Stirling Council, a parttime Project Support Worker, Theresa Elliot, has been appointed for 20 months to help KAT take forward four of the projects identified in the Killin Action Plan - the Old Mill, the Breadalbane Park improvements, acquisition of the Sports and Leisure building from Stirling Council and a Space Audit on Killin and Ardeonaig, in order to identify and evaluate spaces available for the use of the community. Updated Killin Action Plan

Nick Wright and Viv Collie have completed their interviews and are working on the results which will be published soon. This will inform us more about current opinions so we can all see what the most important issues are for Killin. It is hoped that a wider

representation of the community has participated this time. More on this in the next issue.

#### **Public Toilets**

The Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park Authority presented KAT with £10,000 for a feasibility study on toilets (as a subject only). KAT doesn't have an existing income, let alone the £8,500 p.a. necessary for the maintenance and repair of just one existing public toilet, so is not in a position to take over the toilet for the community. However, the audit will look at what options are available and for the best site for a public toilet in Killin. That site must service tourist and service buses, visitors, tourist hot spots, shoppers, the Breadalbane Park, fishermen and free campers who set up their tents beside the Lochay and Dochart. It must also be capable of servicing two to four coaches each holding up to 50 people. If such a site were found and finance obtained to develop a new toilet, integrated with retail premises capable of maintaining it, a breakthrough would have been achieved. Killin would then be known as a welcoming place for all visitors including the disabled, those with medical problems, families with children, hill walkers, cyclists and many other groups who need the facility. Visitors would be much more likely to extend their stay in Killin. W/A

#### Report from the Mill

Things continue to go well at the Mill with visitor numbers remaining high and income maintaining a pleasing level. We are aware that we need to repair the lade as soon as possible as visitor numbers increased significantly on the couple of occasions recently while the wheel was running to clear the debris. St Fillans Healing Stones are now back in their rightful place in the mill where visitors are pleased to see and handle them.

The arts and crafts gallery continues to develop with a number of artists

waiting to display their work. We are particularly keen to support Killin folk by showing and selling their work, so please get in touch if you have anything you would like us to display. Applying for funding for the building itself and to employ a manager for the project continues. We have had some success and hope we will soon be in a position to move the project on. It is really pleasing that thrift continues to come in on a regular basis but, as this is our main source of income, it needs to keep at a steady level so we must not get complacent. We are happy to collect thrift from

people who cannot get it to us themselves. Currently we have a lot of very good quality books, especially hardbacks on all sorts of subjects, from gardening to fishing.

We welcome four new volunteers and welcome back two who have been ill since before Christmas. More volunteers are always needed, especially as the holiday season is nearly upon us and cover will be needed to help deal with visitor numbers while helpers are on holiday.

elpers are on holiday.

Alicja Fraser 820690

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#### Fire Alarm



Killin has its own Fire Station in the centre of the village and currently nine locals are employed as firefighters. However in recent times there have been two serious fires in the village and each time, although the fire engine was minutes away, it took longer than the village expected for it to get to the scene. People were not slow to complain to the firemen but no-one is more frustrated than they are at the reasons for the delays.

They are now only allowed to take the appliance out if there are four people showing available to crew it. Most of the nine have jobs outside the village or only work in the village part of the time. This means some are not available during the day and it can take others time to get to the Fire Station so in a daytime emergency there is less

chance of getting a full crew together quickly. Firefighters carry pagers at all times and log themselves on and off availability to a central (not infallible) computer as they come into or leave the village and when they are unable to respond. If the system is only showing three available, no-one will be paged. Someone could be on a day's annual leave for a daytime appointment, and at home in the evening, but is not allowed to log on again. He or she could be right nextdoor to a fire but not allowed to be part of the crew! In the days of common sense, a three-man crew could take out an appliance if more than one appliance was being sent for anyway and in situations where more crew are needed, preparations would be made by three people before others arrived. It only needs one

person to save a life by using a defibrillator or clearing an airway and delay can cost lives. Crews are trained not to endanger themselves so why would three be more at risk than four?

Maybe the Scottish Fire Service would like to explain why the new system is an improvement and also what is being done about recruitment.

Our firemen deserve our support, not criticism - without them we would have no Fire Station at all. They give up their spare time to train hard and respond to emergencies in return for a small retainer and the satisfaction of doing a worthwhile job. A bigger pool of men and women to call on would help to keep the appliance available at any time. Ideally all would have their main jobs in the village and be either self-employed or have employers who are willing to allow them to drop everything when they are needed but local recruitment is difficult. Some suitable people who applied for the job have given up because of the time taken to process applications and arrange training and the Fire Cadet organisation which attracted many voungsters was stopped - but more younger people are needed. Our present crew cannot carry on forever without new blood. Meanwhile don't knock the firemen - the fault lies in the system!



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#### MacGregor's Market Update



MacGregor's Café is now open! We started off simply just selling teas, coffees and cakes. We also have several local arts and crafts-peoples' work on display and for sale. We're building up our tourist info and also local info. If you have a business card, flier, or a poster advertising an event, bring it in. We'll be extending the menu to offer simple, tasty hot food; we'll also have equipment loan and hire set up, so if you need a flip chart stand or a projector for a presentation or a marquee for an event come in and ask.

The really exciting bit is happening next – refurbishing the food shop, previously the grocers. We're hoping that it'll be ready by early July. The produce from there will be used for the café menu. There's still a lot of work to be done, cleaning, painting, fitting out, stocking; anyone who has time to spare and wants to lend a hand would be very welcome.

We're now employing one full time and two part time members of staff and once the second shop opens, that will increase. Anyone with an interest in local food, wholefoods, fair-trade foods or who is keen to support this communitymanaged shop venture, is welcome to pop in and register interest in jobs. Once both shops are open, there'll be a fair amount of careful management required.

So far, twenty nine of our members have donated, bought shares or lent us £6,400, which has covered the renovation costs, fitting out and legal fees; more members would be great. Anyone can join - minimum contribution is £1, and if you get involved, you have a say in how things are run! Many people have commented on how good it is to have some life around MacGregor's shops again. The garden area at the rear is also an area we would like ideas for and help with. The "Green Team" have been in to have a look at what could be done. Ideally we'd like it to be a pleasant outdoor space, perhaps replace some of the concrete/slabs with some greener covering, plant a screening hedge. Several young mums have said it would be nice to have a safe space to go with kids where they could have a cuppa with friends and not have to worry about the road. But if there are any other ideas out there, please let us know! Non-noisy ideas are necessary, as there are immediate neighbours.

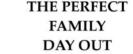
Some of the school children come in after school to play chess, which is good to see.

Finally, a huge "Thank you" to all those who have given time or donated money; you are too many to mention, but you know who you are! On to the next phase!

Katy & Dolan

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#### Killin Community Council May Meeting

#### Glenoglehead Development:

Anne McGuire will raise the concerns discussed with Fiona Logan. **Pharmacy**: An appeal has been

submitted.

Falls of Dochart Bridge parapet: Stirling Council have undertaken a temporary repair with the intention of a full repair in lime and mortar once the weather improves.

Potholes: The potholes above the Golf Course had been filled in but have re-opened and are reported to be just as deep as before. M. Earl stressed the need to ensure a job number is issued for any reports to Stirling Council. There are other potholes around Killin, including a large one on Manse Road. He will request the Roads Department to tour Killin to see what work is required.

Flower beds: The beds at the bottom of the village have been dug over and the Floral Association has agreed what work they will do with Stirling Council.

**Breadalbane Park**: The old goal posts have been removed.

**Birks Cinema**: The Community Bus now provides a weekly service to the cinema

**Biomass**: This is still waiting on funding.

**Street lights**: There has been work carried out on the lights at the Falls and the Capercaillie.

Puddle at the Wee Bakeshop: The toby cover has sunk on either side. This is outside the door and allows water to flow in to the Bakeshop. This will be raised with Scottish Water. There are also large puddles at either end of the black bridge. M. Earl had been told by the Roads Officer that the road drainage gullies near the cemetery had not sunk enough to warrant repair.

**Breadalbane Forum**: A Broadband Advisory Group is being established to advise Stirling Council.

Roadside Sign at Lix Toll: This has been repaired.

Manhole cover at Ballechroisk: This has been repaired.

Planning:

Proposed Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park sign at the Bridge of Lochay Hotel – It was fed back that the land in question belonged to Stirling Council but this was disputed. Evidence of ownership will be provided at the next meeting. **Scottish Water**: Plans for

improving the water supply at the River Dochart have been displayed.

**Community Council Elections**: Nominations to be submitted by the 25th October 2013.

Public Safety Panel: M. Earl has been appointed convener of this Committee which consists of one member for each Ward. Its role will be to scrutinise both the Police and the Fire Service. Serious concerns were raised about the new crewing levels for Fire Stations and a number of local Fire Fighters and I. Frickleton agreed to discuss their concerns further with M. Earl following the meeting.

Overgrown bushes: Bushes by the road at Stitts require cutting back.

Traffic Speed on Lyon Road area:

It was proposed that the area including Lyon Road, Lyon Cottages, Ballechroisk and The Old Mart be reduced to a 20mph zone. The traffic in this area has increased, as has the number of young children living and playing here. There is also no stop sign at the end of the one-way street.

Coach Stop: Stirling Council have been asked to adopt the coach parking area as a "Bus Only Stance" which would enable the police to enforce coach and bus parking only. This would mean a daytime ban on cars between 8am and 6pm.

**Ardeonaig Road:** The trees here were cut back by Stirling Council as this is an official Cycle Route. This does not apply to roads around Boreland and the Golf Course.

**Tyndrum Gold Mine**: This is on hold because of the current price of gold.

**Double Yellow Lines**: The double yellow lines around Myrtle Grove need to be re-instated, particularly as more cars will be parked in this area if the Pharmacy opens.

Next meeting: Tuesday 9th July, Church Community Rooms, 7.30 pm.

**Eleanor Murray** Minutes Secretary

#### **Loss of Bus Services**

Due to a change in the financial support provided by Stirling Council for local bus services, the Council has authorised the termination of twelve local bus service contracts and apologises for the inconvenience that will undoubtedly result from the withdrawal of these journeys. The three which directly affect our area are:

c34/c35 Stirling to Forth Valley Royal Hospital – last day of operation Friday 16th August 59/c59 Callander to Stirling – last day of operation Sunday 18th August C60 Callander to Killin – last day of operation Sunday 18th August.

## Glen Lyon & Loch Tay Community Council

We need a volunteer to be coopted on to the Community
Council. A vacancy has occurred in
the Lawers area of the council and
we need someone to come forward
in that area to be a local
spokesperson. We meet every 2
months; the next meeting is
Thursday 18th July at the Big
Shed, Tombreck. Please get in
touch with our chair, Sue Gardener
on sg1ardener@talktalk.net or our
secretary, Stella Dorey, on
stelladorey@btinternet.com for
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Summer Changes

At the middle of May we are still all wondering what happened to spring? Will summer ever come? At this time of year we always think about and notice the birds. In the last Killin News we saw that their fancy was turning to love but it doesn't seem to have got much further with little evidence of the birds actually nesting and laving.

While out on the hill at fox dens we noticed that some of the ravens' nests seemed to have chicks doing OK but others seemed unused. Some birds seem little in evidence at all. Earlier on in the year there was not a thrush to be seen around here then all of a sudden quite large numbers appeared. Maybe this was to do with awful weather further south. The osprevs seemed to return at their usual dates but the cuckoo, martins and swallows seemed to be later. We don't seem to see many lapwings in this area nowadays but it was lovely to see quite large flocks feeding in the fields in Yorkshire. What we do have around here is blackcock and it is really worth the effort to get up a little earlier to see them lecking - when the males strut around to impress the females (sex

rearing its head again!) Another thing which makes you wonder is what some of the birds of prev and foxes eat these days with the lack of rabbits. Some of us are old enough to remember vast plagues of rabbits, some of us can even remember the rabbit catcher men like old Fred Simpson who was said to be almost invisible when cycling along from the likes of Crianlarich, due to the number of rabbits coupled onto his bike. They were often headed for the London market Then again what did the hunting animals feed on long ago before rabbits were introduced? Then they would also have had more competition from wolves etc. If proposals to reintroduce wolves, bear and lynx to the Highlands come to fruition, that will give that competition again - and also to the farmers. Understandably these proposals have met with something a little less than a heartfelt welcome by the Farmers' Union and others. Wild land campaigner Mandy Haggith believes that we need predators on the land to redress the burgeoning deer population and help balance the ecosystem.

Let's bear in mind that the escapee

wild boar on Loch Ness-side have had to be shot because they have killed so many lambs

There seem to be other escapees in the form of big cats. There have been several recent sightings in the Killin area.

So if you manage to walk the hill and safely avoid the big cats, boars and other hungry predators, don't forget the dangers of mobile phones. It's folly to rely on them in many hill areas as there are many areas out of signal. Also phones and other electronic devices can alter the magnetic field in compasses and recently it is thought that some hillwalking accidents in misty conditions have been caused by just

But all that aside - check your compass regularly, keep an eye open for big cats and enjoy the countryside we have - hopefully in the summer sunshine. If you choose to enjoy the beauty of south Loch Tay, don't be alarmed that the beavers have reached Ardeonaig and had a bit of a fling on the roadside trees - it's just the recent council contractors cutting back overgrowing trees.

Tim Frost



# B

At the Press Event on 12th April, held in the 100 seat magnificently refurbished listed building, we were shown 3D and 2D previews of forthcoming films. The luxurious seating allows ample space and important in our view, the sound levels are not ear-blasting! Combine this with a spacious, bright, welcoming foyer, a double height 64 seat restaurant plus café bar and helpful friendly staff, and the scene is set for a happy, social, entertaining experience. The programme up until the end of May featured many of the very latest films (eg. Life of Pi, Brave, Oblivion, Les Miserables) so we now eagerly look forward to seeing what is on in June and beyond. Prices and contact details are as follows:

Tickets: Standard £6.50 Students/Seniors/Disabled/Unemployed £5.50 3D Surcharge £1.50 Live Broadcasts from £12.50 The Little Birks (families with children) Saturday mornings £3.50 3D £5.00 Bookings: 0871 902 5754 Amongst those attending the event were John Swinney, Scotland's Finance Secretary and MSP for Perthshire North, who was the first person to buy tickets from the cinema and has been a staunch supporter of the community's seven year fundraising campaign. He congratulated all those behind the relaunch and stated that he sees the cinema's role within the community as being not only an employer but also as a creative inspiration and an asset to the area for both residents and visitors. The Birks employs eight members of staff and the local community has continuously supported the cinema's restoration since " Friends of the Birks Cinema (FoTBC), a registered charity, was created in 2006 and it is in no small part down to them that completion of the 1.8 million funded project has been achieved. From its origins as a 470 seat cinema in 1939 the Birks enjoyed several decades as a highly popular cinema,



uneconomical and was transformed into an amusement hall which finally closed in 2004. Hope for the cinema was resurrected by the community in 2006 with the formation of FoTBC and the rest, as they say, is history. Congratulations to all involved.

#### Locals attend Birks Opening

On Friday 19th April the Birks Cinema, Aberfeldy opened to the public after many years of being more or less a derelict building. Many Killin villagers had the privilege of being invited to the many trial days which the cinema had put on, making sure that the opening to the public went smoothly. It was just like being at the Oscars, red carpet, photographers and the paparazzi. There was plenty of glitz and glamour. I had taken my Brad Pitt, aka Andrew Watson, with me. Some of the guests had been lucky to win a gold ticket to this event. A bit like Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. everyone in the village was anxious to win one of these tickets which allowed the winner and a guest to be in attendance at the grand opening. Once past the media and into the beautiful foyer a finger buffet and champagne was enjoyed by 100 people. Jan Willison gave an interview to be broadcast on Heartland Radio and she was accompanied by her daughter, Lindsay. Ben McLarty was accompanied by his Gran, Cathie Graven and Mr &

Mrs Neilson from the village also attended. Jan thoroughly enjoyed her evening and remarked kindly on the experience as did Cathie. Once into the auditorium, which is furnished with lush red seating - the kind one could quite easily fall asleep on - everyone was treated to a web link talk from well-known local man Alan Cumming, who was speaking directly from America. The film shown was Oblivion starring Tom Cruise.

It was a wonderful experience and thank you to everyone who was in any way involved in the re-opening of the cinema. I wish the team success and would like to remind people that the Killin Community Bus is available for use by any group of up to 11 people plus the driver who may wish to attend any of the performances.

Ann Watson

#### Live Events at The Birks

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> June, 19.00 National Theatre "The Audience" Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June 19.30 Glyndebourne "Falstaff" Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June 18.45 "Royal Opera House "Gloriana" www.birkscinema.co.uk

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#### Strathfillan Community Council

Community Council Elections these will take place at the end of the year. Members will remain in place until midnight 24th October 2013 and elections will be held after 22nd November 2013. A couple of Community Councillors are stepping down so there will be vacancies. If anyone is interested in joining the Community Council, please let us know and we will ensure that you receive an application form when they are issued.

Chair John's report

John has been involved in negotiations on a number of issues including Community Gain with David Lowes, car parking facilities at Larbert Hospital, Issues raised by the formation of a national Fire and Rescue Service. Pharmacy application and the Heritage Centre.

**A82 Pulpit Rock improvement** Michelle Rennie Head of Construction

Branch update on alternative road closure programme:

On the 17th April Transport Scotland announced its intention to seek views on an alternative road closure programme for the improvement work on the A82 at Pulpit Rock. Following discussions Transport Scotland and the contractor McLaughlin & Harvey have revised the work programme. Work is expected to start at the end of May and that the overnight road closure programme will be as follows: 10th to 24th June (except 21st & 22nd) 3 weeks in August and 3 weeks in September

2 weeks in October and 1 week in November

Less than 1 week in March 2014 1 week in April 2014 & 1 week in May 2014

Additionally, there is a need for a full closure of less than one week in January 2014 (within the original 14 week closure period).

Where possible, we plan to publicise the dates for the closures outlined on the Transport Scotland website and by

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news releases, variable message signs and local newspaper adverts.

The contractor will work closely with the police to identify local events and will ensure that any work is planned to avoid or minimise disruption to these events.

The contractor has identified that there may be opportunities for "wave throughs" during the overnight closures in October/November and this will be confirmed nearer the time. Work is expected to start at the end of May.

#### Broadband

Cllr Neil Benny is heading a Broadband Advisory Group and we were invited to nominate a representative for a place. Balquidder, Lochearnhead and Strathyre CC are making nominations and we will liaise with them.

#### **Bus Services**

Cllr. Alvcia Haves brought to our attention the withdrawal of Rural Bus Services as part of the budget savings. When SC made the cuts they were aware that the impact would fall disproportionally on the elderly, disabled or those without any other means of transport.

Members ensured that the DRT services were protected. Most of the cuts are to the eastern villages, the C59 service (Callander-Stirling-Throsk) one early service and two late services Monday to Friday and the Sunday service is cut. The C60 (Callander -Killin) Sunday service is cut. Some services could be run as commercial and therefore not subsidised but maybe with a reduced number of journeys. Martin Earl is working to try to mitigate the cuts.

#### A82 Crianlarich bypass

The tree felling works have now been completed. A bat survey of the two Sitka spruce trees at the south end of Crianlarich has been completed. There was no evidence of bats roosting in the trees; and a protected species survey has been completed and confirmed that there was no significant change to wildlife activity in the area.

#### Environment

Suzanne and Bill McAlpine have agreed to plant up the Tyndrum tubs and Eileen and Alan Smailes will plant the tubs in Crianlarich. The vegetable boxes have been planted up and Alan

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The CC agreed that Alan should apply for a Community Grant for the planting of all the tubs and boxes.

has taken precautions against the deer

#### Housing

on Willow Brae.

All Council tenants who chose new heating systems have had them installed. Tenants may be entitled to a decoration allowance of £15 a wall. where they need to re-decorate. Council Tenants can also get reduced prices at any time at Dulux Decorators, Munro Road, Springkerse, Stirling on production of their tenancy agreement. Installation of PV solar panels is almost

#### **Central Regional Network**

Moira has been involved with Central Regional Network (CRN) who held their AGM on 11th May, Both the STA and the CRN are involved in trying to help people affected by the underoccupancy rules known as the Bedroom Tax. This only affects people of working age who are claiming housing benefit. The CRN works closely with the Scottish Government on Housing Policy. There is a new Housing Act coming in this year, and both the CRN and STA will be responding to this consultation

Joyce and Isla had a useful meeting with the BIG Lottery about getting the paths project started. We have submitted a more detailed project plan for LSY to LLTNP, as part of the preplanning process. This contains most of the information we will need for a full planning application, which we intend to submit in the next few weeks. We have responded to the SC solicitor with various documents requested relating to the lease for LSY.

Volunteer Day Lower Station Yard Six people turned out and a great lunch was provided by the Rod & Reel. The yard was swept and ex railway sleepers laid out marking the boundaries of the concrete apron. The area was cleared of scrub, roots and fencing by our friendly JCB driver. Last week Alan widened the area to make it ready for hedge planting;

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## lan by the Way

#### Crianlarich toilets

External security lighting with photocell has been installed outside the toilets illuminating the immediate area. Now the better weather has arrived, the external of the building will be pressure washed, painted and the guttering cleared out and repaired.

Cameron will look into installing automatic air fresheners and a vending machine in the gents and ladies. Also to install a door closer on the gents' door, replace the signage indicating the 'gents' and 'ladies' toilets and install informative signage on the building. Annette, who cleans the toilets, has agreed to keep the immediate area around the toilets clean if she is provided with a vard brush and shovel. Once all the above is complete, the intention is to have an official opening of the public toilets within the coming few weeks.

#### **Local Services**

We have responded to Les Goodfellow's minutes from a meeting with Cameron earlier this year in a positive manner. He has yet to respond. However it all seems very positive and hopefully we will have two local people in place before too long.

#### Councillor Martin Earl's report

John has raised issues concerning the local Fire and Rescue Service; Martin has spoken with Kenny Rogers, Local Senior Officer (Stirling & Clackmannanshire). The National

Board has Regional Representatives and Martin has contacted all four members, who will be attending the Public Safety Committee meeting. A proposal has been put forward from the meeting. Another proposal has been put forward by the Fire Service but local crews have some concerns. How this issue is handled will be a test of how the National Board will work in reality. The edict coming down from National level has no sensitivity to local issues

If there were more fire-fighters at each station, then there wouldn't be a problem. At the recruitment day there were seven applications from local people, who, as far as they know, because they have yet to be informed officially, all failed the entrance test. If more practical help was given before recruits take the actual test, then staffing levels could be improved. With so few staff at each station, there is pressure on the members if they cannot attend.

Martin suggested that the approach should be a short term fix, then to continue raising the issue with the National Board; a short term fix is better than an edict that savs they cannot attend.

With no feedback from the Fire and Rescue Service on why the recruits failed and when no help was offered to get people through the admission procedure, surely the CC can ask why no-one got through? We could also

point out that the Fire and Rescue Service is putting this area at increased risk by turning them down.

The Breadalbane Ring bus service is

#### Owen McKee's report

starting again in June, but with a different operator. Cameron says there is an option to bring the bus to this area, but the project works on sponsorship as well as funding so local businesses would need to be involved.

The summer service operated by Citylink from Dundee to Oban will only be running once a day this year, so it will no longer be possible to have a day trip to Perth or Dundee. Work is progressing very well at Loch

Lubnaig and should be complete by early July and in operation sometime in July. There will be an affordable charge for overnights on the nine camping plots. Fees will be fixed by the operator. The second area will be car parking only.

The final reports from the Charrettes are with officers at NP. There will be further consultation on suggestions, and talks with landowners.

#### Suzanne Player's report

There is some discussion at the council at the moment about how to consult on the Local Transport Strategy and ensure that people's current concern about bus service cuts are heard. There will be presentation and consultation on the Strategy at the Breadalbane CC meeting on 17th June but it may be that someone who can



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## Strathfillan by

answer questions on the cuts will be present too.

#### Pharmacy

The application from Davidson's pharmacy has been approved, despite many letters against the proposal. The right of statutory appeal is from the dispensing surgery which is appealing. It is extremely frustrating that our detailed response to NHS Forth Valley has only been acknowledged. We really need a point by point response explaining this decision to approve the pharmacy.

#### A.O.C.B.

It was proposed by Isla Craig and seconded by Alan Smailes that Charles Urquhart is co-opted onto the Community Council. All agreed. Charlie accepted saying that since coming to the area he has realised what a lot of work is being done by a small band of people and he wanted to help.

The AGM will be held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2013 at 7pm, with a business meeting following. All welcome.





## Ochills Mountaineering Club



The membership of the "Ochils Mountaineering Club" wish to extend an Invitation to local villagers from Strathfillan and surrounding area to view our Cottage/Bunkhouse at Crianlarich which has recently been refurbished & extended.

Our "Club" have owned the Cottage since 1991. Prior to purchase we had rented it annually from the Forestry Commission (i.e. since 28 November 1963). Which is the 50th anniversary this year! Another great reason to celebrate.

The Open Day will give you an opportunity to view the Cottage and see the huge difference we have made to our facility. In addition we wish to meet you our neighbours. Please come along and join in the fun on the day. There will be light refreshments on offer.

The Cottage is also 'Let' to other like minded Outdoor Groups from all over Great Britain. We already have strong connections with our closest neighbours, Inverardran Farmhouse B&B, The Ben More Lodge, The

Crianlarich Village Store and Stitt Builders.

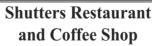
We previously had links with the village Community Council in agreeing a summer seat be placed within the forest walk area in memory of a Club member who loved this area.

It will be great for our members to meet more of "the Locals" to share stories and let you know more about our Club activities and who actually uses our Cottage.

We are very interested in the history of the Cottage and hope to gather some local knowledge about past residents. We do have an old OS map dating from 1850 which shows the cottage buildings and often ponder who did live here in the past? Do you have any information or photographs you could share with IIS?

To help us make plans for our big day, please call **Christina** 

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## the Way



#### Strathfillan Development Trust

#### **Saplings**

Summer is almost here so it must be SAPLINGS time again! The Trust is putting the finishing touches to this years exciting programme of fun for all our 8 to 13 year olds. So watch out for the booking forms coming to a schoolbag near you!!

#### Lower Station Yard, Crianlarich.

A huge amount of work has been done by local volunteers to improve the site; hard graft and the use of a wood chipper and JCB have now opened up the area revealing long lost views down to the river and beyond. The determination and hard work of locals will turn this once desolate eyesore into a real asset for the village. The Trust expects to sign the 10 year lease with Stirling Council any time now.

Joyce Russell

Development Officer strathfillancdt@btconnect.com 01838 400 545

Although my hours are flexible, I am normally in the office on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. Or contact me at home 01838 300 220

#### Ultra Marathon



Kirsty Burnett, from Tyndrum, ran in the Glasgow to Edinburgh Ultra Marathon (56 miles) on 6<sup>th</sup> April and was first lady with a time of 9hrs and 5mins. Kirsty is a very keen ultra runner and has done quite a few local runs - The Devil of the Highlands (from Tyndrum to Fort William) and the Glen Ogle 33, which starts and finishes in Strathyre. Kirsty and her husband, Ranald, are the owners of By The Way Hostel and Campsite, and they host a number of training weekends for ultra runners.

**Ranald Burnett** 







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#### **Scarecrow Competition**



Get your straw thinking caps on and help put Killin Agricultural Show on the map!

In the run up to this year's Killin Agricultural Show on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> August 2013 you are invited to take part in a Community Scarecrow Competition.

Scarecrows should be on display and registered by Monday 12<sup>th</sup> August. Register your scarecrow in Killin Paper Shop by adding your name, contact number and location of your scarecrow to the list.

Your scarecrow should be displayed within reasonable walking distance of the village.

Use your imagination! Your scarecrow can take any shape, size or form.

The scarecrows will be judged on Friday 16th August and results will be announced at the show after the parade enters the main ring. A map of the village with the locations of all the scarecrows marked will be available from the paper shop from Wednesday 15th August so that everyone can take part in their own 'Scarecrow Hunt'! Have a scaretastic time!!! For more information about the scarecrow competition or any other aspect of Killin Show including stands please contact Lynsey Campbell 07795 247 541

#### Killin Show 17th August



No engines allowed

Must be pushed

#### Maximum of 3 team members per kart

Killin Agricultural Show 17th August 2013
Kart and team may enter the show as part of the parade leaving the
Falls of Dochart at 12,30pm

Any questions contact us on FACEBOOK
Killin Agricultural Show.

Entries to the Secretary tent on the day.

Trophy prizes very kindly donated by:- A & B Services, Killin.

The Organising Committee of the Killin and District Agricultural Society, under new Chairman Sandy Taylor, have been hard at work making arrangements for the 2013 Show. There was disappointment last year with the enforced decision to cancel the cattle section due to the heavy rain and danger of damage to the park. However, with co-operation from the weather, it is hoped to have all the livestock classes in place. The annual show brings the whole community together and, being a celebration of the quality livestock reared within the show catchment, it also embraces the talents of dedicated gardeners, bakers, preservers, floral art, children's skills, photography and painting, along with local crafts.

Entertainment is essential to be enjoyed by both visitors and the stockmen and women who can relax from the morning tension of awaiting the judge's conclusion. The selection of stalls and booths are always worth a visit as an education and appreciation as well as the chance to purchase a keepsake of the day. The Comrie Pipe Band will lead the

parade from the Falls of Dochart at 12.30pm followed by Vintage Tractors, Go Karts and the fancy dress entrants. So come on all the local organisations - how about entering your group in the costume extravaganza and/or build a Go Kart. A new feature of Show Week is the Scarecrow competition, the idea being to make a suitable effigy and have this on display in the front of your house for all to admire and the judge to deliberate on.

There are plans to tweak some favourite events with some changes to the Triple Challenge and maybe a new twist to the Go Kart race. The tug of war will be a challenge if there are sufficient teams of Seven-a-side worthies willing to have a go, but the multi side all ages pull will go ahead. The terrier race stewards will try and control the eager participants whose speed can sometimes deceive the operator. Add the annual Bonnie Babies, the three class Dog Show and with a few other items still to be finalised and there is a good mix for the day to keep everyone amused. Don't forget the auction of goodies in the marquee where bargains are hard to come by but the quality being offered is of the best.

The catering this year is in the hands of Alastair Gourlay and his crew, and the marquee will also be the venue for the evening Ceilidh Dance at which there will be no admission charge but the committee ask for support for the raffle.

Finally a big thank you to all the sponsors whose generosity is greatly appreciated.

Further details can be obtained from the hard working Show Secretary Lynsey Campbell on 01567 820532

**Alex Stewart** Field Commentator

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"In some years you could cut them in half and sew them up again and they would live; in others if you look sideways at them they expire!" So would quote an old friend in Ulster many years ago, referring of course to the exigencies of lambing. Lambing 2013 would I reckon, fall into the second category. Lack of grass, lack of milk in the ewes, and a general legacy of 12 months of damp, sunless conditions with rarely a dry bed for livestock has told its tale. Loch Tayside has actually come off remarkably lightly in comparison to the blizzards of late March experienced further west. Here we did have some snow, which on lower ground at least, was fairly innocuous although at higher levels above 1,000 feet was considerable with much drifting. Between 22nd March and the morning of 25th light snow fell unceasingly for 70 hours though producing only about 3 inches of lying

Now into early May temperatures, particularly at night, have risen dramatically and the resultant sudden burgeoning of trees and shrubs has been astounding; some trees having been completely leafless one day and by the next being almost in full leaf. Over many weeks grass was virtually non-existent, except perhaps in sheltered spots where not grazed; during the first week of May, however, it has shot up without restraint, much to the delight of ewes and shepherds! The price paid for this bonanza is inevitably, torrential rain which is fast rendering underfoot conditions comparable to those of most of 2012. ...and More

Returning now to the subject of Gaelic place names on South Loch Tayside and moving Eastwards from Tullichcan which implies a place abounding in hillocks or knolls, we come to Ardeonaig or Adamnan's Height. This was at one time par excellence a crofting township with every available site under cultivation. Historically in such an environment practically every rill or streamlet, every rocky eminence or physical peculiarity would have had a name; most of these, however, are now forgotten. Of those remaining a few examples are worthy of note. Croft Shennach -Croit Sionnach, would be the foxes'

croft. Croft Valley – Croit Bhealaidh, would be Broom Croft (the shrub broom) and is still in use. Ardeonaig Hotel was once known as Tigh na Linne or the house by the pool. What is now known as Brae Lodge, from Braigh an Trian – the brae of the third part (a land measure), was once Tigh na Dilleachdan or the orphanage.

Mervyn K Browne Ardtalnaig

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The Ring of Breadalbane Explorer 2013 will run three times a day on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays from Saturday 29th June to Sunday 20th October, almost twice as long as the 2012 pilot. The hop-on hopoff circular service, which takes in Aberfeldy, Amulree, Crieff, Comrie, St Fillans,

Lochearnhead and Killin, runs in both directions and calls at all of the major tourist attractions in the area. Between Killin and Aberfeldy there will be a fourth two-way service in

the early evening.

The service is managed by the Breadalbane Tourism Co-operative and operated by Smith & Sons Coaches of Coupar Angus. 2013 enhancements include larger (25-



seat) buses capable of transporting 6 bicycles, plus scheduled links from Perth and Dunkeld, bringing visitors to the Breadalbane area. New destinations added to last year's route include Acharn, Crieff Visitor Centre and Culvtbraggan Camp, Comrie.

Increased business support is essential to ensure the success and future of the service - indeed it is a condition of the funding that the

Breadalbane Tourism Cooperative receives from the public sector. The Breadalbane Tourism Cooperative invites local businesses to support the service with an offer of sponsorship. To appear in the promotional material, offers of sponsorship should be received by 11th June 2013. Smaller businesses and individuals

can also support the Explorer and other tourism initiatives in the Breadalbane area by becoming a Friend of Breadalbane (£25). To find out more about being a Sponsor, or to become a Friend, please call: 01567-820-527.

Passenger numbers are a key factor in obtaining financial support for future years. So most of all, please support the bus by using it!

Ken Chew

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#### Ruth Kennedy **Development Coordinator**

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#### Computer

o r n e r



## Internet Speeds and the rural community

Recently I briefly mentioned Microsoft Office and Web Apps being internet, or "Cloud" based and the concern related to the amount of bandwidth that might be used in accessing these types of applications. There is an ever-growing trend now to use the internet for all sorts of applications, not just from Microsoft. We can now watch TV and films on the internet, make voice or video calls online, store our data on the internet and even play games and do business online.

There are collaboration tools widely available for business users to allow staff to share information whilst away from an office.

It is a very common sight nowadays, wherever one goes, to see people constantly using their mobile phones to communicate with their friends and colleagues via the internet. This is definitely the way forward, and I am encouraged to see that more and more applications are

being changed and created to use this technology.

What I am disheartened to see is the lack of fast broadband here in the rural community. The towns and cities are benefiting from fibre optic or cable networks, which can provide extremely fast internet at low cost. Even mobile networks in the urban areas are increasing their speed to the latest 4G technology whereas we are still struggling with slow internet speeds throughout our whole community.

Until the infrastructure improves, we are stuck with limited network speeds and our internet service provider limiting our monthly bandwidth. We are being left behind in the ability to use technology to our best advantage, just because we live in a rural location.

This also has impacts on tourism, as holiday makers now look for fast mobile and wireless networks whilst away from home and we need to have the infrastructure to support their requirements.

#### **Tablet or Laptop?**

I am frequently being asked which is better a tablet or a laptop. This is not a question that can be readily answered as it depends upon several factors. Firstly the touch screen interface of a tablet is perfect for a lot of people, but many just prefer a mouse and keyboard. Secondly, a laptop with keyboard and mouse is

ideal if you use the device for word processing or spreadsheets – whereas a tablet is ideal for music/video/communications.

There are more "hybrid" devices now appearing in the market – these are basically touch screen laptop computers with a detachable keyboard – but the prices are currently too high for the functionality that they offer. I firmly believe these hybrids are too expensive at present.

My suggestion is to go to one of the large computer stores and try all types of device to see what you are comfortable with.

#### Virus Alerts

Once again there has been a spate of viruses that have bypassed the antivirus tools. Many of which (Trojan viruses) are included as part of some other software that the user has chosen to download - this software initially appears to be a useful tool for example applications to convert DVD films to other formats. As the user has chosen to install this software the usual anti-virus protection is overridden and the virus installs itself on the machine. Please note that I am not implying that all DVD conversion software carries a virus, this is just an example of how a Trojan virus might get on to your computer.

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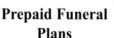
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#### **Moirlanich Repairs**

The recent essential external repairs to the historic Longhouse at Moirlanich in Glen Lochay near Killin have been commended by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors.

The National Trust for Scotland property was up against major projects such as renovations to the Scottish National Portrait Gallery, the overall Project Winner, but the RICS 2013 Award judges recognized the skills and techniques used to preserve the unique Moirlanich building.

Moirlanich made the short list for the work to repair the roof and take down and re-build an unstable section of the outer wall. The conservation works were carried out sensitively by highly skilled craftspeople using traditional methods and materials. It was a delicate operation and care had to be taken to protect the rest of the building and the precious furniture inside while the work took place.

#### Green Team Summer Programme

13<sup>th</sup> June Seed to a Tree 27<sup>th</sup> June Eggsplorers 11<sup>th</sup> July Ben Lawers Big Five 25<sup>th</sup> July Mighty Biters

8<sup>th</sup> August Web of Life 22<sup>nd</sup> August All Creatures Great & Small 5<sup>th</sup> September Creatures of the Night

19<sup>th</sup> September Patterns of Nature

Meet at the school pond 6pm – 7.30pm

#### Volunteers for Moirlanich Longhouse

The National Trust for Scotland property at Moirlanich is in need of more helpers to enable us to open this unique Highland property.

A recent open evening provided some extra support for the existing pool of almost twenty volunteers but more would be welcome. Members of the Killin Heritage Society have provided the backbone of volunteers since the building opened to the public in 1996.

Volunteers are at the heart of the National Trust for Scotland, and the charity depends on them to conserve and manage properties. It's this face-to-face work that appeals to many of the Trust's volunteers, as they proudly explain the special features of the property. Moirlanich is one of the few attractions in the Killin area, making it even more important to keep it open. Anyone interested can have an informal chat with the management team, who will explain the requirements and commitments. The season began on 1st May and runs through until the end of September, opening on Wednesdays and Sundays from 2 until 5pm.

For more information call: 0844 493 2136

#### Ben Lawers NNR Talks Programme

Illustrated talks by NTS conservation staff and guests, held at NTS meetings room, Lynedoch, Main Street, Killin at 8.00pm:

**Wednesday 10**<sup>th</sup> **July**; Alpine flora of the Breadalbane mountains John Holland, Upland Ecologist at Scottish Rural Colleges Hill and Mountain Research Centre illustrates the botanical riches, and some associated fauna, of the area.

Wednesday 24th July; The Nature of Glencoe

Dan Watson, Ecologist, on the natural history in one of Scotland's best loved landscapes.

Wednesday 7th August; Habitat Management in Norway

Paul Thompson, Ranger Naturalist at Ben Lawers National Nature Reserve, reflects on what we can learn from the Norwegian approach to management. **Wednesday 21st August;** Ben Lawers, More than a Munro

Helen Cole, Senior Ranger Naturalist talks about conserving one of Britain's top Nature Reserves.



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#### Ben Lawers National Nature Reserve



#### **Guided walks & Events**

#### Friday 28th - Sunday 30th June: An introduction to mountain plant identification

A weekend learning the basics of how to use keys to identify mountain plants on this botanically rich nature reserve. Requires a reasonable level of fitness. Duration: 2 days Cost: £100 non-residential, £130 including self-catering bunkroom accommodation. Bring: Walking boots, warm, waterproof and windproof clothing, a copy of Francis Rose's Wild Flower Key and a hand lens if you have one (available for loan if not). You will need a packed lunch and drink each day. Meet: 7pm Ben Lawers NNR Ranger Base, Lynedoch, Killin. Booking essential;

#### Wednesdays 3rd July, 31st July and 28th August: Hillside safari

Experience the rich flora of the lower slopes on this famous botanical nature reserve and the varied wildlife flourishing in restored native plant communities. Duration:  $2\frac{1}{2}$  hours. Cost: adults £5, children £2. Bring: Walking boots, warm, waterproof and windproof clothing. Meet: 1.30pm Ben Lawers NNR car park. No need to book.

Tuesdays  $9^{th}$  July, 23rd July, 6th August and 20th August: Close Encounters - a children's walk An exploration of the habitats on the lower slopes of Ben Lawers; we hope to bring you close to some of the less obvious animals and plants that live here. Duration: 2 hours Cost: adults £2, children £5. (Adults must be accompanied by a child and vice versa). Bring: Wellies and waterproofs. Meet: 10.30am Ben Lawers NNR car park.

#### Wednesdays 10th July and 14th August: An introduction to navigation

Get to grips with the basics of how to use a map and compass in the hills. Requires a reasonable level of fitness. Duration: 6 hours Cost: adults £15, children £7.50. Bring: Walking boots, warm, waterproof and windproof clothing, food, map (OS Landranger 51 or Explorer 378) and compass. Meet: 10.30am Ben Lawers NNR car park. Booking essential,

#### Wednesday 17th July: Mountain Flowers

A high-level guided walk to see some of the arctic-alpine plants for which these hills are famous. Requires a reasonable level of fitness. Duration: 7 hours Cost: adults £25, children £12.50. Bring: Walking boots, warm, waterproof and windproof clothing, packed lunch and drink. Meet: 9.30am Ben Lawers NNR car park. Booking essential,

#### Friday 9th August: Moth Night

A chance to see some of the moths of the mountains as they are attracted to our harmless light traps. The rangers will be returning to the traps on Saturday morning to inspect the overnight catch and you are welcome to join them again then. Duration: As long as you like Cost: adults £2, children £1 Bring: Warm clothes, midge repellent, torch and sunglasses.

Meet: 8.30pm Ben Lawers NNR car park.

For further information about any of the events or walks telephone 0844 4932 136 or benlawers@nts.org.uk https://www.facebook.com/BenLawersNationalNatureReserve

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#### Killin Golf Club Senior Gents Open 8th May



#### Category 1 (0-14)

1 Bruce Ford (Killin) 66 BIH 2 J Innes (Glenrothes) 66 3 Glenn Marshall (Rye Hill) 67 Category 2 (15-28) 1 Colin Simmons (Killin) 68

2 Ronnie Findlay (Dalmally) 69 BIH 3 M Newton (Helensburgh) 69 Nearest the pin 15 - 28: H Ardbuckle (Crieff)

Nearest the pin 0 - 14 Glenn Marshall (Rye Hill) Nearest the pin in 2

Alan Reid (Callander)

## Handicap winner (Kiltyrie

Bruce Ford (Killin) 66

Mactaggart Trophy (Best Local h/cap 15 - 28)

Colin Simmons (Killin) 68 Lix Toll Trophy (Best Local h/cap 1 - 14)

Bruce Ford (Killin) 66

Magic 2's

Billy MacKay (Dalmally) H Ardbuckle (Crieff) Glenn Marshall (Rye Hill) Graham (Bishop Auckland)

CSS: 67

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#### Tyndrum/Crianlarich **Fortnightly Fridays**

June 7,21, Jul 5,19, Aug 2

#### **Tvndrum**

Station Road 10.50-11.10 Clifton 11.15-11.40 Mansefield 11.45-12.00

#### Crianlarich

Willow Square 12.05-12.35 Police Station & School 1.40 - 2.30Benmore 2.35-2.55 Suie Lodge 3.05-3.25

#### Glen Lochay/Ardeonaig **Fortnightly Mondays**

June 3,17 Jul 1,15,29 Glenlochay 10.50-12.30 Ardeonaig 2.00-2.45

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#### McLaren High School

#### Litter Pick

S1 and S2 pupils took part in Callander's Spring Clean Litter Pick as part of our current partnership work with Forth Valley Environment Link. Callander and Community Development Trust have expressed their appreciation of the contribution that McLaren pupils make as responsible citizens in this community effort. On Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March we held a Mufti Day with pupils donating £1 to Comic Relief for wearing non-uniform. We had a bake sale at morning interval. We managed to raise a fantastic £1054.43 – around £200 more than last year well done!!

S6 Charities Committee

#### **Green Event**

On Monday 25th March we hosted a Green Event which marked the end of a pilot waste project with Forth Environment Link. Several partner groups joined us for the day including Forth Environment Link, Green Routes, Eco Schools & Clean Up Scotland (KSB), Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park Rangers, Resonate Arts House, Friends of the Earth Falkirk, Fintry Development Trust and Scottish Natural Heritage. Pupils from S1 to S3 visited the event. Highlights included making "smoothies" using electricity generated from cycling to power the blender, making bookmarks from waste materials and producing an ORCA artwork from waste.

#### Rugby

Before the Easter break McLaren seniors travelled to Larbert High School for the Central School Cup semi final.

#### Catering by Carlotta



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- . Meetings

Or why not have a cookery demonstration for your Club or Society

#### Senior Ski Course, April

One of the highlights of the school year is the Senior Ski course. This year travelling to the Austrian Tyrol, Mayrhofen in the Ziller Valley gave a good range of ski slopes as well as easy access to the glacier at Hintertux. Overall the week was another fantastic experience for all those involved and Mr. Martin, who was enjoying his very last School Ski Course, made mention of how the group had really gelled and reflected on the ORCA values in a final address.

#### Skiing Report - Schools Alpine Series

We are delighted to report that the McLaren Ski Team of Regan Dingwall, James Ronald, Craig Fingland and Connor Ramsay-Clapham all skied really well on Friday 15th March and secured second place at the finals of the 2013 Schools Alpine Series.

They were narrowly beaten by Cults Academy with the combined times of the two schools only 2 seconds apart! Gordonstoun School were third.

A great achievement for the team.

Yvonne King



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## KILLIN AND STROOT

## Killin Primary School



Real Science of the Circus
On Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May, Mr James Sopher came to our school to teach us about the magic of forces. We learned about the force of gravity and magnetism. He used to work in the circus and was an amazing juggler. He rode a huge uni-cycle whilst juggling. He showed us about



gravity by swinging a tray upside down with a cup full of coloured water and the water didn't spill. It was really funny. We also learned that when you drop two things of different weights at the same time from the same height, they will land on the ground at the same time. Everyone enjoyed the show and we learned lots of things. Amy Blake P6

#### **Summer Concert**

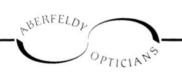
As part of our school summer activities, Killin & Crianlarich pupils will be performing songs from musicals at a summer concert that will be held at Killin McLaren Hall on

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June at 6.30pm. Proceeds from this concert will be split between the Schools and Strathcarron Hospice. Tickets £3 (children under 12 free)

#### **Leavers Assembly**

We will sadly be saying 'farewell' to nine of our pupils at the end of June. We wish them all well as they move on to new experiences and exciting times

The Leavers Assembly will be held on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> June at 1.30pm in the school hall.



#### Glaucoma

Anyone over the age of forty can develop Glaucoma

The problem being that a person does not realise they have Glaucoma until it is well established and the damage is done. With modern screening aids and medication Glaucoma can be detected at an earlier stage, before symptoms develop and easily controlled allowing you to keep your visual health for longer.

Tuesday to Friday from 9.00am until 5.30pm, with lunch from 12.30pm to 1.30pm, and we are open on Saturday mornings from 9.00am until 12.30pm.

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#### Duck Race



Killin Parent Partnership and Class 3 would like to thank everyone for their donations of baking, bottles, gifts for the tombola and their support at the Duck Race. Together they raised in excess of £840. The winners were:

1<sup>st</sup> – Sarah Watts 2<sup>nd</sup> – Sheila Allner 3<sup>rd</sup> – Dr MacColl

Best Named Duck: Alaya Christie -Quackiliscious

#### Killin Outdoor Centre

#### Free cycle safety check!

The Killin Outdoor Centre is offering free Cycle safety checks each Sunday morning.

Young riders 16 years and under who want to get their bikes checked for the summer and learn a little about bike maintenance are welcome to bring their bikes down to the shop on a Sunday between 9.30 and 11.30.

#### Get Outdoors Summer 2013

We are introducing a programme of activities aimed at giving youth organisations their families and friends a chance to try outdoor sports free of charge this summer. Various organisations in the Killin area have been invited to come along and try canoeing or kayaking on the River Lochay free of charge. If there is enough interest we could organise an activity on a regular basis through the summer holidays.

Local groups have also been given

discount cards for their members and supporters which will help with the costs of outdoor equipment for Duke of Edinburgh weekends etc.

If your group is interested in taking part please contact Stephen to arrange a suitable time

> Killin Outdoor Centre and Mountain Shop Main Street , Killin 01567820652 shop@killinoutdoor.co.uk

## **Eureka Garden Shop**





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#### **Family History Workshop**

Saturday 28th September 10.00 am - 4.00pm NTS Meeting Room, Lynedoch, Main Street, Killin £40 (includes teas/coffees and lunch) Killin Heritage Society is organising a Family History Workshop day, led by Marie Dougan, professional genealogist, a tutor of Genealogy and FH courses at the University of Strathclyde and owner of Ancestral Consultants Scottish Genealogy Services. The Society is extremely lucky to be able to welcome Marie to Killin and for her to offer the workshop day at a price that is generously reduced from her normal fee. As an individual you would be paying £25 per hour for her help! Anyone may book a place on the

workshop, you do not have to be a member of Killin Heritage Society. The workshop will be suitable for all stages of family history research from complete beginners to the more experienced - and a great way to share your interest with other likeminded folks, whilst being guided by a professional. If you want to trace your family history but have not yet begun, then this is the perfect way to start your research. For those who have made some progress but need advice on how to continue their research, then this is the ideal way to acquire that help. If you think that you have researched as far as you can, or have become stuck following one particular lead, then the professional help this workshop

provides may enable you to continue your research.

There will be tea/coffee and biscuits to keep you going during the day and a delicious lunch of soup, homemade bread and cake. Places are limited to a maximum of 10 (to allow for one to one tuition) and a minimum of 8 participants will be required for the workshop to go ahead.

Marie is a busy lady so an early response is required from those who are interested in order for us to confirm the date with her. If you are interested in the workshop please contact Gillean Ford, 01567 820492 for an application form, as soon as possible

## FORTINGALL ART

Mini Art Exhibition – Call For Entries With over 30 exhibitors showing paintings, photography, sculpture, furniture, jewellery and more, there should be something of interest for everyone at the 2013 Fortingall Exhibition.

which takes place from Saturday 27th July to Sunday 4th August and is open from 10am to 6pm daily. The exhibition would not be complete without the exciting and much appreciated Children's Mini Art Exhibition. Last year we were delighted to have over 300 entries from all over Highland Perthshire and the standard was exceptionally high. All entries must be 12cmx12cm, in any medium and capable of fitting into a CD case. The competition this year is based on the 'Year of Natural Scotland 2013' and the categories are:

5-7 years - Forests and Woodlands -Prizes: 1st £25, 2nd £15, 3rd £10 8-10 years - Rivers and Lochs  $1^{\text{st}}$  £25,  $2^{\text{nd}}$  £15,  $3^{\text{rd}}$  £10 11-13 years - Nature in Towns  $1^{\text{st}}$  £30,  $2^{\text{nd}}$  £20,  $3^{\text{rd}}$  £15 14 plus - Coasts and Islands  $1^{\text{st}}$  £40,  $2^{\text{nd}}$  £30.  $3^{\text{rd}}$  £20 All entries will be exhibited at the Fortingall Art Exhibition and we welcome all contributors to come and see their work.

The closing date is Friday 14th June. Prize giving is Friday 26th July. This will take place at 6.30pm and there will be no speaker this year. All prize winners will be notified in writing and are encouraged to come to the opening night on 26th July. Entry forms and more details are available at

www.fortingallart.co.uk/exhibition or from the Aberfeldy Library, Breadalbane Community Campus, or contact Audrey Slorance, Claremont, Taybridge Road, Aberfeldy Tel: 01887 829370

We look forward to receiving your entry.

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#### Big Shed News

Over 60 hang gliders descended on the Loch Tay area for their five day National Championship competition at the beginning of May. Although the weather wasn't very kind they all boosted the local economy by using cafes, restaurants, hotels and Bed and Breakfasts and could be seen driving around with hang gliders on the roofs of their cars, waiting for the weather to break. For those of us lucky enough to get to the top of Ben Lawers on their last day, it was amazing to see so many of them flying just above our heads at the summit

The Crannog held their weekend Coppicing Conference at The Big Shed for a series of talks, discussions and field trips.

The Edinburgh Quartet returned to The Big Shed for a sell out concert on May 16th. The string quartet played works by Haydn, Britten and Beethoven and an encore by Tchaikovsky. It was a unique experience to hear such a high quality group in a little pocket of rural Perthshire.

The Gardening Club got off to a great start in April with discussions, sharing of tips, free seed potatoes and tours of the gardens at Tombreck. The club is open to all and is due to meet on the last Monday of every month at 6pm at The Big Shed. Everyone is welcome to come and join in and to swap produce if they wish

The 2nd Killin Scout group have recently been formed and are using The Big Shed as their home every Wednesday evening. The Beavers, Cubs and parents joined the Scouts for a barbeque on their first night and 112 portions of burgers and sausages were served to the hungry group after the treasure hunt. The Big Shed commercial kitchen has

been used by a local bread maker on a regular basis to supply Tombreck Farm Shop with a daily supply of fresh bread. The kitchen has had local venison haggis produced in it and we hope that stall holders and producers for Aberfeldy Farmers' market will make use of the great facilities on offer.

Our Artist in Residence, Anne Gilchrist, is hard at work in the Big Shed studio upstairs and is often up early to catch the dawn and to watch otters swimming in the loch near Tombreck beach. She is finding the venue and surrounding area an inspiring place to work. Her art work

is on display at Benmore Botanics at present.

#### Dates for Your Diary: Saturday 8th June 7.30pm:

Classical folk concert by Sinsheen (Tickets £10) Sinsheen is a singing duo consisting of Christine Kydd and Barbara Dymock- each a fine singer in her own right, now working together. They have built a reputation for originality, virtuosity, rich harmonies and the liveliest of live performances.

Thursday 13th June 7.30pm: (Tickets £10) Whisky nosing and tasting evening with Steve Oliver, an independent Whisky consultant from Speyside who will introduce us to the pleasures of Scotland's National drink using six single malt whiskies from the Speyside/Highland region. For tickets for events, information on hiring the kitchen, the whole venue

or a visit please phone:

Jane Watts

Project Development Officer
07766 566935
jane@bigshed.org.uk

# The Bridge of Lochay is one of the best places in the area to enjoy a friendly welcome, comfortable surroundings and good food. Our lovely new Tea Room serves Fresh Home baking and is open daily from 11am to 5pm The hotel is owned and run by Amanda Clark and Bob Stevenson who, along with their team of friendly staff, will provide the very best Scottish welcome and hospitality. Www.bridgeoflochay.co.uk reservations@bridgeoflochay.co.uk 01567 820272 ABERFELDY ROAD, KILLIN, FK21 8TS BOOKING ADVISABLE TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT

#### Killin Community Bus

Why not leave your car behind and use the Community Bus? This bus belongs to you, the community of Killin and surrounding area, Lochearnhead, Crianlarich and Tyndrum.

#### How does it work?

Organisations pay an annual membership subscription of £20 and 60p per mile. Non-members and non-locals are charged 60p per mile for the use of the bus, with a minimum charge of £40 per day for non-members/non-locals. Despite cost increases, we have kept these charges unchanged since 2009, so as to ensure that the bus is as affordable as possible.

All drivers are volunteers and are authorised by the Killin Community Bus Company.

The bus can seat 11 passengers plus the driver and has a wheelchair lift at the back door. If required, seats are removed to make space for wheelchairs.

#### How do I book the bus?

News First hold the booking diary. Check the date you require is available, fill in your name and telephone number and the time the bus is required and enlist the service of one of the registered drivers. The Bus is kept at Lix Toll Garage and should be picked up and returned

there. It is the responsibility of the user to make sure the Bus is returned clean and ready for use by the next user. Take note of the mileage and pay the Treasurer. The driver must fill the Bus with fuel and record the fuel which has been drawn on the bus record sheet.

What can the bus be used for?
The Bus has been used for many outings and excursions. Weddings, works nights out, days out, fishing

trips, group outings.

## PLEASE USE IT. IT BELONGS TO YOU, THE COMMUNITY OF KILLIN.

More details on using the bus and committee member contacts can be found on the 'How Does It Work' leaflet, available in the Library, in the diary in News First or can be downloaded from

www.killinbus.org.uk . Commercial hire is not permitted.

### How do I become a volunteer authorised driver?

There is a simple process for registering to be an 'authorised' driver. Some drivers choose just to drive only for the event or group that they are personally involved with and others make themselves available for any group or outing, diary permitting.

#### Thank you

The Bus Company are indebted to Lix Toll and to Liz and Dougie at News First for all the help they give in the smooth running of the Bus.
We are also grateful to The Clothworkers' Foundation, the Hugh Fraser Foundation, The Gannochy Trust and the Wilburn Trust who gave funds to help us buy this, Killin's fifth community bus, in 2008.

Ann Watson ( outings organiser)

andrewwatson501@btinternet.com Sue Wyllie (Secretary)

wyllies@btinternet.com







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#### Killin Drama Club

#### One Act Play Competition

Killin Drama Club are proud to say that they spread the talents of Killin far and wide - well on this occasion at least to East Kilbride!
Since getting involved with one act plays in 2000, the Club have got somewhat further involved in the "depths" of amateur drama. Killin now houses the Chair of the Scottish Community Drama association (SCDA), the membership convenor of that organisation, the magazine editor and the Webmaster! All of this perhaps proves that Killin really is the central hub of Scotland! The club is always active in SCDA events but never misses out on other opportunities to get involved in performing around the country.

KDC are delighted that after six consecutive years of entering the One Act Play Festival at East Kilbride, they have for the third time achieved runner up trophy and this time round are exceptionally proud of being the recipients of the Best Actor award! This was given to Gordon Hibbert for his portrayal of Harry, an actor who has fallen on hard times in a play written by Michael Park. The runner up trophy was a delight to the Club. It follows from the runner up place in the SCDA competition earlier in the year and the Club are over the moon that the partnership of Gordon Hibbert and Myrica Reid has proved so successful.

Onwards and upwards! Killin Drama Club has succeeded over the years in putting Killin on the map and hope to do so for many a year.

**Lesley Syme** 



Alex Tigwell and Glenda Mardon in "Dear Diva"



Myrica Reid and Gordon Hibbert in "Two Purple Gloves"





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Stríking Memories

I find it hard to sit and wait with a group of people whom I see on a daily basis without striking up a conversation with the person sitting next to me. Sometimes I wish I had continued with my knitting or reading my book but sometimes an amazing story is revealed from such an encounter and so it was that last month I started to talk to an elderly patient sitting waiting for his daily treatment about where he was from. He politely asked the same of me and when I told him he replied "I remember a work colleague from my days with British Rail called George MacRae who lived in Killin for

eighteen months in a tent as a signalman for the Killin Railway." George (the patient sitting next to me, also called George) went on to tell me the story of his work colleague. During the general strike of 1926, George MacRae, who was a team member of the section of line at Kirriemuir, decided that he could not feed his family of five if he joined the strike but if he staved in Kirriemuir he would have been ostracised by his fellow workers. He asked his employers, Caledonian Railways, if he could be given work out of the area so as not to antagonise the strikers. George had

learned to operate and read Morse Code while he was a soldier in the WW1 and as the Killin branch needed a signalman who could communicate through Morse he was offered a post in Killin. His family remained in Kirriemuir so that the children could attend school. The money earned by a Signalman would not stretch to providing accommodation in both places so George lived in his tent for the 18 months that he remained in Killin. There is a photograph of the tent owned by George's daughter Nancy but I have been unable to locate her.

#### Callander & West Perthshire U3A



The new Sunday Lunch group met for the first time on 21st April at Abbotsford Lodge in Callander and enjoyed a

meal at very reasonable cost. Any other members interested in joining should contact the group leader, Eleanor Rey.

Come and join our celebration SUMMER FEST.

Entry is free so come along and bring your friends to enjoy the live entertainment by the 'Singing for Pleasure' and 'Scottish Country Dancing' groups.

The science groups will have video presentations.

'Painting for Pleasure' and 'Creative Stitchery' groups will stage an Art Show. Bruce Crawford MSP will formally open the event and all the Group Leaders will be present to answer your questions about U3A. Callander & West Perthshire U3A SUMMER FEST on Saturday 15th June in Callander Kirk Hall from 10.30am - 4.00pm Refreshments served all day



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# 5

#### RAI QUHIDDER SUMMER MUSIC

A new season of Balquhidder Summer Music, 28<sup>th</sup>, is rapidly

approaching. Six-concerts are once again lined up for this season. It all begins 14th July. Ticket prices remain steady at £8 (concessions £7), and children under 15 are free. A season ticket is kept at only £36 for six concerts. Please note, that these really consist of six separate tickets giving admission to any of the concerts, so they can be used over the entire season at will. They aren't personal, so they can be transferred. We are very happy to be able to restore the tradition of having an opera evening incorporated in the season. This year, Killin-based Frances Morrison has rounded up friends and colleagues from Scottish Opera to give you an evening of

operatic highlights that promises to be a big event.

Last year, the concert series made an overall loss. It was possible to cover this by eating into the reserves, but artists have to make a living, and we will not water down the quality of the concerts being put on. With this background in mind, we ask you to consider, first of all, attending as many of the concerts as you can. If you feel able to help us further by becoming a local Patron, then that will help ensure the series' future. And, as always, spread the word! Nothing is as inspiring for the players as a packed concert venue! You can find more details of the concerts on our website:

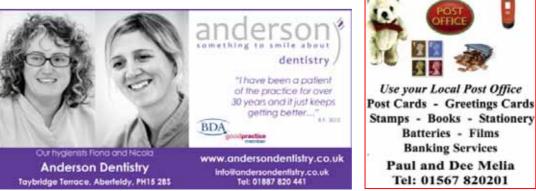
http://www.balquhiddersummermusic.org.uk You can also use the website to order season tickets or become local Patrons. You may wish to reserve tickets in advance (although this has never been necessary) for collection and payment at the door, and you can do this by sending us an email via the website.

Instead of the tea-room at the old library in Balquhidder, which will not be open this year, pre- or post-concert refreshments are available at Mhor 84 (formerly the Kingshouse Hotel).

We look forward to seeing you this year, and to joining you in experiencing a pick of the best of what Scotland has to offer in chamber music playing. Very many thanks for your continuing support.

Wouter van Doorn Chairman







#### Big Fit walk

This is a national event encouraging people to come out and enjoy a 30 minute walk in their local community. Killin Health walks are taking part by having a short walk and refreshments at the Big Shed. There will also be an opportunity to participate in a session of Tai Chi. This event is free and the community minibus will be available to take participants from the McLaren Hall Car Park at 10.20 am to the Big Shed returning to Killin around 12.30 – 1pm. Come along and bring a friend.

#### Schedule - June and July

	Meet	Route	
12 <sup>th</sup> June	McLaren Car Park	Big Fit Walk Big Shed	
19 <sup>th</sup> June	McLaren Car Park	Loch Circuit or Railway if wet	
26 <sup>th</sup> June	Capercaillie (car share)	Auchlyne Road	
3 <sup>rd</sup> July	McLaren Car Park (car share)	Glen Ogle	
10 <sup>th</sup> July	McLaren Car park (car share)	Glen Lochay	
17 <sup>th</sup> July	McLaren Car park (car share)	Golf Club	
24 <sup>th</sup> July	Capercaillie	River Dochart/old Railway	
31st July	McLaren car Park (minibus)	Kenmore	
Walka taka place on Wadnesday marnings, meeting at 10 20cm			

Walks take place on Wednesday mornings, meeting at 10.20am



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## Two Fish & Chips and One bottle of house wine for £19.95

Spring's finally here so here's a great value offer to celebrate. Visit the Killin Hotel or Ben Lawers Hotel and you can enjoy two fish and chips and a bottle of house wine for just £19.95. This off ends on Sunday 30th June so make sure you don't miss out. Please call the hotel to book a table and please bring this voucher with you.



The Killin Hotel, Killin, Perthshire, FK21 8TP
Tel: 01567 820 296 | Email: mail@killinhotel.com | www.killinhotel.com

Ben Lawers Hotel, Loch Tay, Aberfeldy, Perthshire, PH15 2PA
Tel: 01567 820 436 | Email: mail@benlawershotel.co.uk | www.benlawershotel.co.uk

## Drascombe Rally Loch Tay



On the weekend of 11th, 12th May, the Drascombe Society descended on Loch Tay for a Rally organised by Andrw Middlemiss. Drascombe sailing boats come in various sizes from small open boats with two sails to larger ones with cabins and three sails and a range of sizes in between. They have a traditional rig reflecting the simpler form of sailing where getting somewhere at a sensible pace is the object rather than the high drama of the speed merchants who have hit the headlines recently in San Francisco Bay. There were ten visiting boats and three locals at the event. Saturday was cold and wet with very little wind so there was little sailing done. However the social event in the evening was

attended by most of the participants and we were well fed by the Bistro staff who, although under pressure, due to the large number of diners, managed to produce our meals without too much delay. It was an opportunity for all sailors to catch up with those from other parts of the country. On Sunday the wind picked up and all boats made it down to Ardeonaig where we squeezed into the little harbour. The Abernethy Ardeonaig Trust kindly allowed us to use the facility for the day. Following a picnic lunch on shore the boats set off with the wind fluctuating from a gentle breeze to a force 5 and gusting. Drascombes perform well in these conditions and although it was against the wind all the way back,

most chose to sail and only those who had to trailer their boats home by Sunday night resorted to motoring. Loch Tay is a wonderful location for an event like this and, if the weather had been warmer, crews would have sailed to one of the numerous beaches usually only accessible by land to enjoy picnics or a barbecue on such a location.

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#### Book Club Review

#### **Chapter Three**

As the newest Book Club in Killin the 3rd Chapter (or Page 3 Girls as we have been affectionately dubbed) we are delighted to submit our first review. Our Book Club started up in September by popular demand and we are enjoying stimulating evenings each month over a wee glass of wine, chatting about our recent books and, of course, life in general. The best thing about a book club is the encouragement to read a book that perhaps you might otherwise have passed by. We often tend to stick to a favourite genre but, when a club member enthuses about a book, he or she knows we are tempted to give it a go - even if it is not the kind of book we would consider picking up. The best bit is the getting together and getting to know new friends with whom you have something in common, widening our horizons in so many ways and, at the end of the day, if we love the book it's superb, if we don't like it there's no shame in putting it down and moving on. If anyone is interested in joining this group please contact Amanda Clark on 820 272

I believe we are the first Killin Book Club to have our own Blog – to see all the books we have read and see our reviews by accessing: http://thirdchapterkillin.blogspot.co. uk

#### **Book Review**

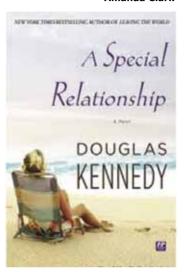
'A Special Relationship' by Douglas Kennedy

Anyway to our review - this is the first book in ages that I simply could not put down. I found myself cooking breakfasts, making lemon curd and just taking every opportunity possible to continue the read – I just had to know what was going to happen. Unfortunately it is one of these books that it would be impossible to say much about the story without spoiling it. Suffice to say that it stimulated much discussion at our Book Club get together. That it is written by a man who has such a superb insight into the female mind is simply amazing. He really has understood his main character and whilst anyone could research, he seems to have really understood the female emotions not a talent that many men possess. The Special Relationship in the title is perhaps not the one that you think it is. Douglas Kennedy paints a view of 'Britishness' which many people will not like but which seemed

appropriate to the story, and he draws some lovely characters who really came to life to embellish the story.

I would strongly recommend this book – it is superbly well written, it is a real page turner and it will make you think.

Amanda Clark





#### The House of Menzies is open again for Summer!

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#### **World Book Night**

On 24th April a very successful 'WORLD BOOK NIGHT' was held in Killin Library for the second year in succession. Every year around half a million books are made available free of charge to twenty thousand volunteers (or givers) and five of these givers were from our community. The idea is a celebration of books and to spread the joy and love of reading and to encourage others to read something a bit different from their usual type of literature

Kay Riddell very kindly hosted the event again and, as well as the books, drinks and nibbles were provided courtesy of the givers and their friends. The event was extremely well supported both by locals and from further afield (Balguhidder and South Dakota to name but two far-flung places). It turned out to be a really sociable event with plenty of chat and the receivers of the books leaving happily fed and watered and carrying off a book or books of their choice. This year the books that they were able to choose from were:-A Little History of the World by E.H. Gombrich.



Sheena Chisholm, Sandra Logan, Amanda Clark, Sally Connor, Catherine Huber

Red Dust Road by Jackie Kay. Girl with the Pearl Earring by Tracy Chevalier. Little Face by Sophie Hannah. Damage by Josephine Hart. Anyone can become a giver (or indeed a receiver) of books as World Book Night runs every year.

**Marion Strang** 



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## Something to do in the Rain?

On a very wet day recently, a lady was seen sitting on the wall by the Falls of Dochart sketching the Falls. It didn't seem to matter that the paper was wet - or maybe they have waterproof paper nowadays. Next day, again in the rain, anotherlady was there painting - must have been water colour - and vet another was busy in Main Street drawing one of the houses. These ladies were part of a group from America on an art holiday with tutor in Killin. They were not at all put off by the weather, which was just as well as the trip also included visits to one of the islands and a fishing village. They were very enthusiastic about the beauties of Killin and the challenges to their artistic abilities.

Holidays with art and/or photography tuition? Maybe this is another aspect of the village which could be promoted to visitors. A business opportunity for someone?

#### Celebration



Beth Louise Jardine born 4th April weighing 8lbs 1oz to Dave & Gillian. A little sister for Harris and a granddaughter for Billy Noble.



#### The Bistro on Loch Tay

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( And news for our regular visitors, the main driveway has now been completely resurfaced! )

#### **Boxing Update**

Monty was selected along with other members of 1314 ABC and Glenrothes ABC to represent



Scotland in a match against Cyprus which took place in Limmasol. Monty was matched against the more experienced local, Karalass Angelous. In a fast paced fight Monty took the fight to the Cypriot, landing good combinations mixed in with hard body-shots to win a clear decision victory over the Cypriot, contributing to the 5-4 victory overall for the Scots.

Following this victory in Cyprus, Monty entered the Open Class Scottish Championships. In the preliminary round of the tournament, Monty drew Ian Keys from the prestigious Lochend ABC. Despite appearing to control all three rounds, Monty was controversially announced the loser by a single point. On April 19 Monty was honoured with the chance to top the bill at the 1314 ABC's annual boxing show. He was matched against Kilsyth GG's Bryce Stewart, a former Scottish and

British champion. In a highly competitive close bout Monty was declared the winner by a split decision. He was also awarded the Leon Cairney Memorial Trophy (given in memory of this young man who was stabbed to death in Plean two days before Christmas) for being the most improved boxer of the year. Monty was overwhelmed by the support of locals who came to watch and would like to thank everyone who came.

> **Jenny Martin** Monty's very proud mum

#### Killin Badminton Club

#### Winners

Gents singles Shield Bill Shaw Junior Boys Trophy Robbie Player Junior Girls Trophy Emma Aitken Most improved junior player

Megan Pease

The club has had a very successful season with about 12 juniors and 15 adults attending on most nights of

The new season will start again on the 30th Sept with juniors from P7 upwards an adults of all abilities welcome

Juniors 6 -7pm Monday and Tuesday Adults 7 -10pm Monday and Tuesday





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#### Letters

#### **Pharmacy**

I have been advised that the application for a new pharmacy in Killin has been approved by the Forth Valley Pharmacies Committee, and must express my disappointment on behalf of many of my constituents who had contacted me about this matter.

I was invited to chair a public meeting in Killin in November, where the strength of feeling by the community was evident. Subsequently, I have received a considerable volume of correspondence from people in the Killin area expressing deep concerns at the potential consequences of this application in terms of the viability of the local General Practitioners, which currently offers a prescription delivery system in the area. Given the rural location of Killin, any potential reduction in the range of services offered by the GP practice could necessitate considerable journeys, with public transport links already under considerable strain. As a result, I submitted my own letter of objection to the Forth Valley Pharmacy Practices Committee expressing strongly the views of the local community.

I understand that regulations permit a right of appeal against this determination, and I intend to encourage those who are able to appeal this decision to do so.

Bruce Crawford
MSP Stirling

(Sent when decision announced)

#### Fiddler's Bay

In 'Mervyn's Weather' in Issue 132 Mervyn says that the name 'Fiddler's Bay' is wrong and that it really ought to be called 'Fat Man's Bay' in honour of the recumbent gentleman who lies just offshore. He is perfectly correct, and we still call the rock 'the fat man'. However, when my father, Ronnie Mackay, bought the land in

1958, he immediately changed the name because he didn't want people to think that it had been named after him. I dont know where the name 'Fiddler's Bay' came from but I do know that it has nothing to do with violins. My father is very proud of the fact that the O.S. map refers to it as Fiddler's Bay.

For those of you who know him, I can report that he and Jessie are very much alive and well, living in Edinburgh. He is 95 and recently went on a high speed driving course, road testing several very fast cars of which he very much preferred the Ferrari. Unfortunately, he is rather deaf, and was unable to hear the screams of the instructor. He still comes up to Fiddlers Bay. Last summer he enjoyed being driven around the loch in a RIB by his six year old great grandson.

Reay Mackay Fiddler's Bay

#### Litter ...

I enclose a picture (not shown) of what greeted me on the morning of 29th March when walking the dog. The Roundhouse had been used as a drinking den and a fire had been lit. Broken bottles littered the grass outside. The next day the bottles had been removed by some kind person but remnants of fire were still there and broken bottles over the grass outside. An absolute disgrace.

**Scotty Wilson** 

#### ... and more Litter

This isn't really a hobby-horse of mine but I just keep coming across these scenes of utter selfishness and vandalism. This latest one is from up the Allt na Ceardaich which comes down through the woods above the golf-course, just a few hundred yards from the Bridge of Lochay Hotel. It looks like at least a dozen people had a barbecue and just abandoned

everything afterwards. It is in such a tucked-away place, I can't imagine strangers from outside the village knowing about it and this time suspicion has to fall on locals, possibly though not necessarily youngsters.

Quite apart from the nuisance, mess, pollution, vandalism and danger to wildlife, this is a criminal offence and the perpetrators are laying themselves open to charges and a possible criminal record with all its implications for future employment. If two or three people could be got together, I would be willing to lead them there and help in the clear-up.

David Paterson

#### **Charity Run**

My friend Danny O'Neill who is from Killin is running the West Highland Way in memory of his Mum Judy, a resident of Killin who died at the end of last year after a long battle with cancer. His best friend Rab Maxwell is running with him also. They are doing the run over 4 days, which is almost a marathon a day.

information
https://www.justgiving.com/Jogging4Judy/

You can contact Danny directly on 07766 268082

Helen Fullerton

Helen.Fullerton@gmail.com 07976 898413

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Web site - www.rapecrisiscentralscotland.co.uk

#### New Location for Callander Jazz Club

From June, the monthly Jazz Club live performances are moving to a new location in McNabs Bar in the Dreadnought Hotel, which offers more space for both band and audience. Performances are held on the last Sunday of the month, 3pm-6pm, featuring the Jazz Club House Band and guests, great music and great fun. Everyone is welcome to be part of this free monthly musical event. Food and drink are available for purchase on the premises.

#### Danny's story - In Memory of Judy

Most of you know my Mum (Judy Holden) who sadly lost her battle with Cancer last October. Throughout her battle we had fantastic support from many organisations as well as friends and family.

One of these fantastic organisations was the Strathcarron Hospice.

"Strathcarron Hospice cares for people with illnesses that cannot be cured including cancer, respiratory and heart conditions and neurological diseases. We are a charity providing specialist palliative care free of charge to people in NHS Forth Valley, and to Cumbernauld and Kilsyth in NHS Lanarkshire.

Care is provided wherever it is needed. This may be within the hospice in Denny, but also in patients' homes, in the local Forth Valley Royal Hospital, care homes and community hospital settings. Care is also extended to families and carers. To keep delivering care to those that need it the most, Strathcarron has to raise around £3.5 million each year.

Over 40% of patients go home from the Hospice having had help with their symptoms. We don't just care for patients with cancer - about 20%



of patients have other life limiting conditions.

Strathcarron Hospice is not a place, it is a philosophy of care that values each individual and helps them put life into their days rather than days onto their lives. We care for families, not just patients and our care does not end when the patient has died - bereavement support is available for families. Strathcarron Hospice enhances the quality of life and dignity in death."

Unfortunately my Mum was one of the minority who passsed away in the hospice. But for that I am truly

thankful. I could not have asked for a more peaceful place for her to do so. The team at Strathcarron are second to none.

So it is for this reason that my great friend, Rab Maxwel, I and I decided to embark on this rather ambitious event.

We plan on running the West Highland Way - 96miles - over 4 days. This works out at just under a marathon everyday.

To put this into perspective, neither Rab nor I have even run one marathon before so your donations would greatly help encourage us through the tough times. I thank you for taking the time to read this and only ask that you donate what you can afford, every little helps.

Danny O'Neill

https://www.justgiving.com/Jogging4Judy

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#### **Local Planning Applications**

#### **National Park** 14 Mar

Proposal: Erection of agricultural

storage shed

Location: Leskine Farm Crianlarich Applicant: Mr Douglas Ashbridge Application Type: Agricultural and

Forestry Notification Decision: Approve

#### 19 Mar

Proposal: Amendment to Condition No.1 of planning permission 2008/0063/DET thus extending the time period for erection of

dwellinghouse

Location: Tayview Main Street Killin Applicant: Mr Colin McRae

Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission

Decision: Pending Consideration

#### 05 Apr

Proposal: Extension to existing cottage to form reception area; Formation of 13 additional static stances and 5 additional touring stances: Erection of replacement shed

Location: Glen Dochart Caravan

Park Crianlarich

Applicant: Mr Robert McCready Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission

Decision: Pending Decision

#### 08 Apr

Proposal: Erection of extension to dwellinahouse

Location: Sean Sgoil Crianlarich Applicant: Mr John Lowther Application Type: Householder Planning Permission

Decision: Pending Consideration

#### 18 Apr

Proposal: Installation of replacement intake for run-of-river hydro scheme

Location: Inverhaggernie Farm

Crianlarich

Applicant: Mr Peter Christie Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission

Decision: Pending Consideration

#### 04 May

**Proposal:** Erection of agricultural building for a biomass plant and store and associated works and infrastructure

Location: Glenfalloch Lodge Crianlarich

Applicant: Glen Falloch Estate

Application Type: Detailed Planning

Permission

Decision: Pending Consideration

Proposal: Installation of solar pv panels to roofs of dwellinghouses and removal of chimneys between 1&2 and 5&6.

Location: 1,2,4,5 & 6 Monemore

Applicant: Housing Services Application Type: Detailed Planning

Permission

Decision: Delegated Decision Pending Consideration

#### Perth & Kinross Council 21 Mar

Proposal: Erection of a dwellinahouse

Location: Rynachulaig Farm Killin Applicant: Dr C Freeman Application Type: planning permission local

Decision: Pending Consideration

#### 02 Apr

Proposal: Modification of consent (07/00830/FUL) Variation of conditions 3 and 7 (passing places and bus pick up area) relating to the change of use of former brewery building to a mixed use community development Location: The Big Shed Tombreck

Lawers

Applicant: Lochtayside CIC

Application Type: planning

permission local

Decision: Pending Consideration

Proposal: Alterations and extension to dwellinghouse and erection of garage

Location: Location: Taronga Dalchiaran Fearnan Applicant: Mr A Grier Application Type: planning

permission local

Decision: Pending Consideration

Proposal: Alterations and extension to dwellinghouse Location: Ben Lawers Farm Cottage

Applicant: Mr H McDiarmid Application Type: planning

permission local

Decision: Pending Consideration

Proposal: Modification of consent Amendment to access road to serve tourist accommodation

Location: Duallin Farm Lawers Applicant: Miss Deirdre McNaughton

Application Type: planning permission local

Decision: Pending Consideration

Proposal: Change of use of boating retreat building to holiday let Location: The Croft Fearnan Applicant: Mr And Mrs A Douthwaite

Application Type: planning

permission local

Decision: Pending Consideration

Stirling Council **Nothing to Report** 



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#### What's On in Killin and District

#### June

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- 10 NTS talk Lyndedoch 8pm page 18
- 10 Strathfillan Community Council AGM 7pm
- 12 Walk in the Park meet McLaren Car Park 10.20am page 30
- 13 Green Team meet school 6pm page 18
- 13 Big Shed Concert 7.30pm page 25
- 19 Walk in the Park meet McLaren Car Park 10,20am page 30
- 24 Gardening Club Big Shed 6pm
- 26 Walk in the Park meet Capercaillie 10.20am page 30
- 27 Green Team meet school 6pm page 18
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#### July

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- 3 NTS event page 19
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- 14 Balguhidder Summer music concert see website page 29
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#### **Internet Cafe**

Tues. Wed and Friday Tvndrum Hall 11am-4pm

Usually Tuesdays Church 7.30pm phone Franny 01567 829048

#### Brownies Mondays Lesser Hall

#### Internet Cafe

Thursdays Killin Library 11am-4pm

#### Library

Donate books and borrow books Tvndrum Hall when open

#### Softplay Club

Tuesdays Sports Pavilion 12.30 - 2.30pm Tai Chi Thursdays Big Shed 10.30am

#### Tai Chi

Wednesday Tyndrum Hall 9.30am

Yoga Fridays Big Shed 10.30-noon

#### **Tiddlers & Toddlers**

1st and 3rd Thursday Community Rooms 10am - 12 noon

Youth Group (Killin)

Tuesdays 7.30pm Sports and Social Club

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